

## Animals React to Cold

Winter dramatically changes many practices in various farm operations. Among other things, cold changes the way some farm animals should be handled.

Garden Spot Young Farmers recently were given the following advice by Dwight E. Younkin, Penn State animal specialist.

Most livestock can survive and live if cold temperatures are the only stress upon them, says Younkin.

The age when animals are old enough to adapt to cold weather varies with different species.

A beef calf adapts to cold weather almost from day of birth; a lamb at about 10 days, but a pig doesn't adapt to cold weather until he is two or three months old.

In cold weather, more feed is required to produce a pound of gain.

Young pigs need more protection than either cattle or sheep. Their rate of gain

can be reduced by 100 per cent and their feed requirements can be increased by 200 per cent if they are exposed to prolonged periods of cold weather.

Producers feeding pigs up to market weight should provide a warm, dry, bedded area. A hover of plywood over the bedded area helps improve feed efficiency in an open type finishing house. For pigs under 60 pounds a heat lamp inside the hover provides additional heat needed by smaller pigs.

Younkin cautions farmers not to close buildings up so tight that it becomes damp. Dampness is worse than coldness. Any closed building must have forced ventilation to keep down dampness.

Knowing how animals respond to weather conditions can help farmers care for them in such a way as to achieve best results.

## A Note of Appreciation

We think the Pennsylvania Farm Show is too big, too diversified for any publication to report it adequately.

But we did the best we could with the time and the space we had at our disposal.

We wish to thank the many, many persons and firms which helped us. We can't name all those who helped in many kinds of ways, but we appreciate it.

Our thanks includes the help with the pre-Farm Show Issue last week and this week's report on the Farm Show itself, as

well as help with numerous items in next week's issue which we were unable to publish this week because of time and space limitations.

While we have attempted a comprehensive wrap-up of all phases of Farm Show activities involving local persons, we know we may have missed something important to our readers.

If so, call it to our attention. We particularly appreciate that kind of help.

## Good News on Hog Cholera

The word from Dr. Homer S. Forney, Harrisburg, recently that hog cholera may be eliminated in this country by 1972 is certainly good news for local farmers.

Word that hog cholera finally is being eradicated from some neighboring states is particularly good news.

While the hog cholera eradication isn't complete yet, the efforts over the past year make buying of out-of-state feeder pigs much safer than before.

We think a more ready interstate flow of swine ultimately will be beneficial for the swine industry in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

But a word of caution: Taking the necessary steps to prevent new hog cholera outbreaks is more important than ever. A serious new cholera outbreak could set the eradication date back many months, or even years.

## Emphasis on Common Ground

The new U.S. farm bill adopted recently is primarily understood by farmers as the bill which finally put a ceiling on federal farm subsidies.

According to some, the bill is also a first step toward removing the dependence of farmers on the federal government. This estimate, however, has by no means been accepted by everyone.

In fact, the farm bill was extremely controversial before it was adopted and it has remained nearly as controversial since. Various farm organizations have attacked it — often for entirely different reasons.

Recently, President Richard Nixon defended his Secretary of Agriculture, Clifford Hardin, in a statement at Beltsville, Md. The president also defended the new farm program. But at the same time he acknowledged the disagreement about it as follows:

"I don't mean to suggest by that that all of the decisions that we have made in

this Administration meet with unanimous approval by the leaders of American agriculture. I found that when we were trying to develop a Farm Bill this year that it was very difficult to find any common ground of agreement.

"There were certainly no partisan lines that divided Democrats from Republicans on agricultural issues. As you know, generally speaking, it is a question of the corn people and the wheat people and the cotton people and the peanut people and the people that don't have subsidies and the people that do and so on down the line.

"And so the problem is to find a piece of farm legislation that is in the best interests of American agriculture and, at the same time, will serve the interests of the country generally.

"This Farm Bill, I would have to candidly admit, did not meet with a much approval from all of the various agriculture organizations as I would like. And I read the publications. I know what some have been saying about the farm legislation. The Secretary has told me a little about it, too.

"I do want you to know, however, we do think it is an improvement. We do think it is a good start in the right direction."

The controversy within the farm community to which President Nixon is referring appears in large part to stem from a difference of opinion on how to keep the farm community or segments of it economically healthy.

Such differences of opinion can be constructive. But farmers should recognize the many things they have in common and also emphasize them.

Farmers themselves will suffer most if they allow themselves to split into warring factions.



**NOW IS  
THE TIME . . .**

By Max Smith  
Lancaster County Agent

### To Do Farm Planning

Since the rush of the Holiday Season is over, now would be a good time to be making definite plans for the 1971 farming season. Farm planning is a 12-month job but the few months preceding the cropping season is very important in order to decide what to produce and all of the inputs required for a maximum, economical yield. Don't put off farm planning until planting time.

### To Reduce Feed Waste

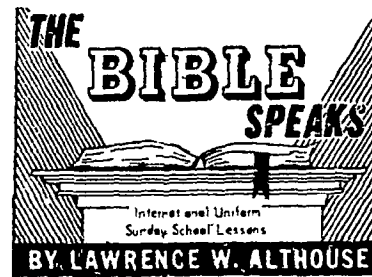
Many pounds of grain and feed never get into the livestock because of faulty feeders or poor management. Feed efficiency is very important in a profitable livestock or poultry program. Some feeders permit

animals to work out excess feed that is wasted on the floor or ground. A good feeder will require the animals to work for their feed, or not permit them to get it out on the floor or manure pack. Sanitary bunks and feeders also encourage total consumption with a minimum of waste.

### To Get Farmer's Tax Guide

Income tax reporting time is approaching and we urge all persons filing a farm report to get a Tax Guide. They are available from the Internal Revenue Service office or from our Extension office. A special all-day meeting on Farm Tax reporting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20 in the Farm and Home Center.

## For Full Market Reports Read Lancaster Farming

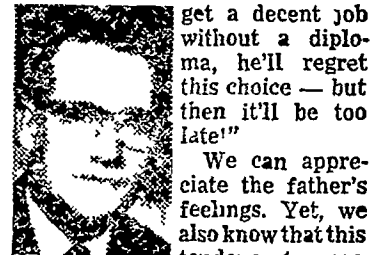


### CHEATING OURSELVES

Lesson for January 17, 1971

Background Scripture: Matthew 13:44-50;  
Luke 14:15-24

A father was bitterly lamenting his son's refusal to go to college. "I've tried to make him see what he's passing up, but he wouldn't listen," the man exclaimed. "Several years from now when he realizes that he can't



get a decent job without a diploma, he'll regret this choice — but then it'll be too late!" We can appreciate the father's feelings. Yet, we also know that this tendency to pass up golden opportunities is typical of human nature. Many of us can look back upon many bad choices which today we can hardly understand having made.

### Deliberate wrong choices

The fact of human nature is that we often make deliberate wrong choices. We know something is good for us, but fail to make use of it, choosing something else which, at the moment, may be more attractive. The child passes up spinach for candy, regardless of his understanding that spinach is good for him and candy may not be.

If only this perverse tendency ended with the termination of childhood, but it doesn't. Adults continue to make these wrong choices, if on a more sophisticated level. Some people are inclined to continually complain that they "were behind the door when the goodies were passed out." There are times when we are tempted to ask whether they were behind the door by accident or chose to be there!

### They made excuses

Jesus is speaking of this human tendency in his parable of the great banquet. He is picturing the imaginary scene of the great banquet of the Kingdom of God when the Messiah has come. This is what the people of Israel were waiting for with great eagerness. Yet, Jesus is picturing many of the people as choosing not to go to the banquet when at last it comes.

There are three typical excuses. One man has just bought a field and he is anxious to see it. Another has just purchased some oxen and is anxious to try them out. A third man has just married and wants to stay home. (Deuteronomy 24:5 provides the following law: "When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business, but he shall be free at home for one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken.")

Each knew what he was passing up, yet chose a lesser good. Each was determined to just what he wanted. Even though their excitement with a new field, a new set of oxen, or even a new wife would wear-off in time, still they preferred these to the Kingdom.

This seems incredible that anyone should make such a choice, yet we make those kind of choices frequently in our own lives. Several months ago our church invited a speaker of national renown to address a special occasion. The speaker was known for the excellence of her message and the compelling nature of her delivery. Her witness has changed many lives.

### Missing out

The night of the special service came and the church was full. Yet, despite the "full house," I felt a sense of regret in noting the many people who had not come but who could have profited so much by hearing her. The alternatives many had chosen included a bridge club, bowling, shopping, and a night in front of the television set.

This is typical of the kinds of golden opportunities which we allow to slip by every day. It is often not a choice between "good" and "evil," but between some lower and higher good. When, for some perverse reasons we choose the lower good, it is ourselves whom we are cheating.

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